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Application No. : 10/763,216
Filing Date : January 26, 2004
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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A method for automatically generating current distribution order data with the inclusion of central address directories, which are stored in databases and are transmitted by electronic data transfer, as distribution order data, comprising the steps of:

locally copying a current central address directory or address directory parts relating to a relevant area to create a local copy of the current central address directory or address directory parts,

locally storing change instructions regarding a relative positional change for delivery points in the distribution order for a previous version of the central address directory or of the address directory parts,

transferring the change instructions to the local copy of the current central address directory or address directory parts,

performing a check so as to determine whether the change instructions have already been implemented in the current address directory or address directory parts or whether the instructions are yet to be executed,

storing valid change instructions yet to be executed in an audit file,
and

executing the change instructions.

Claims 2-6 (canceled)

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Claim 7 (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of identifying delivery points according to identification data, the identification data comprising at least a sorting code.

Claim 8 (new) The method according to claim 7, wherein the identification data additionally and locally incorporates house number extensions.

Claim 9 (new) The method according to claim 7, wherein the identification data additionally and locally incorporates distinguishing remarks.

Claim 10 (new) The method according to claim 9, further comprising the steps of incorporating new advice comprising at least one of forwarding advice and distribution advice into the local copy of the current address directory or address directory parts by performing the following steps:

performing a check so as to determine whether the delivery point for the new advice exists in the local copy of the current address directory or address directory parts for the distribution order data, and

when the delivery point for the new advice exists in the local copy of the current address directory or address directory parts, adding the new advice to the local copy of the current address directory or address directory parts, with the new advice having priority over old advice of a same type, and

incorporating a complete change data for the new advice into the audit file.

Claim 11 (new) The method according to claim 7, further comprising the steps of:
updating the local copy of the central address directory or address directory parts by transmitting only incremental changes by data transfer, the incremental changes including a transmitted position in the distribution

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order for each delivery point, the incremental changes being merged with the previously current local copy of the address directory or address directory parts by using the identification data for each delivery point to check in the previously current local copy of the address directory or address directory parts whether the respective delivery point for a respective one of the incremental changes is already present, and

when the respective delivery point for the respective one of the incremental changes is not already present in the previously current local copy of the address directory or address directory parts, incorporating the respective delivery point into the local copy of the address directory or address directory parts at the transmitted position in the distribution order, and

when the respective delivery point for the respective one of the incremental changes is already present in the previously current local copy of the address directory or address directory parts, moving the respective delivery point to the transmitted position in the local copy of the current address directory or address directory parts.

Claim 12 (new) The method according to claim 11, wherein the respective delivery point is moved by deleting the respective delivery point at the previous position in the local copy of the current address directory or address directory parts and re-entering the respective delivery point at the changed position in the local copy of the current address directory or address directory parts.